

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Thursday, May 4, 1865.

Terms of the Maine Farmer.
\$2.50 in advance, or \$2.00 if paid with
in six months of the date of delivery in all cases.
All payments made by subscribers to the Farmer will be credited in accordance with our new mailing method.

The printed date will show the time to which he has
paid, and will constitute, in all cases, a valid receipt for
monies remitted by him.

NOTICES.

Mrs. JAS. STURGEON is now on a collecting and canvassing tour in Kennebec County.

Mrs. V. DARLON will call on subscribers in Lincoln and Knox County during the months of April and May.

Letters from the War.

We shall learn many valuable lessons as a nation, from the war nearly brought to a close. Among these may be stated the following principle: that a foreign element in a Republic is probably to be against the government itself. The system of Mormonism had, at one time, assumed a hostile attitude to the United States, and a force of ten thousand men was compelled to march a thousand miles to their very doors, and it was only their immediate presence that overawed Brigham Young and his deluded followers into submission to the authority of the Government.

The State of South Carolina was settled largely by a class of men who did not sympathize with the inhabitants of the other States. Gradually they assumed the character of a foreign element in the country.

Slavery as a system, is opposed to all ideas of a republican form of government. It was this history in this country has been directly opposed to freedom of thought, speech and action. One of the most formidable insurrections Rome had to contend against was that of the slaves in Sicily, who collected an army of seventy thousand men, which for a time resisted the most powerful Roman armies. It was but a few years afterward when another insurrection occurred that cost a million of slaves their lives. It was a maxim of the Roman empire to make all the inhabitants of conquered countries citizens, and thereby avoid making those distinctions which would serve to create opposition to the government. It was a long and fierce struggle at Rome for the ascendancy, or, perhaps, rather for equality between the patricians and plebeians. It was only by breaking up those distinctions in a great measure, that the quarrel ceased. Contrary to the policy of the Romans, the Spartans, when they had conquered the city of Melos, made the inhabitants slaves, and the helots, or slaves, were ever after, a foreign and most dangerous element in their government.

So long as Greece kept out this foreign element she was strong, though composed of confederate States. Hence, in the Trojan war, and in their wars against the Persians, they were invincible, because they were united.

Our own nation, with far less numbers than now, fought successfully against foreign powers, because the antagonistic element to free institutions was not developed. It was only by breaking up those distinctions in a great measure, that the quarrel ceased. Contrary to the policy of the Romans, the Spartans, when they had conquered the city of Melos, made the inhabitants slaves, and the helots, or slaves, were ever after, a foreign and most dangerous element in their government.

The somewhat startling intelligence was received on Monday, that the rebel ram Webb, which for some time past, had been blockaded in the Red river, had eluded our gunboats, and run down the Mississippi towards New Orleans. It was feared she would attempt to destroy our commerce on the river, escorted by a brigade of rebel cavalry. Stoneman is probably closely in pursuit, and it is believed that Wilson, who holds all Southern Georgia will be able to intercept his progress towards the Mississippi river. The chances are that the arch traitor and rebel will be captured, and suffer the penalty of his treasonable misdeeds.

The report of the Committee on City Buildings that they had purchased a building of S. S. Holmes for \$50, for a pest house, and had selected a location for the same on the city farm, was accepted and the Mayor was ordered to pay said sum, and the Committee on City Buildings were directed to remove the same to the city farm.

Roll of accounts No. 1, amounting to \$237.19 was allowed.

The subscribers to the Loyal Mutual Alliance Association were ordered to be paid the sum subscribed by them when the money can be realized from city bonds dated July 1, 1864.

John Barrows was elected Assessor in the place of James B. Hall, resigned.

The Annual reports of the various departments of the City Government of Augusta for the past year have just been published, and we present herewith some statements of interest gleaned therefrom. The report of the Overseers of the Poor gives \$7,313.45 as the expenses of this Department for the year. There was expended upon the roads and streets, the sum of \$8,133.36, being apportioned as follows: in the Western District \$4,881.35, in the Eastern \$3,271.51.

During the year past, the Fire Department was called out nine times, and the losses by fire in the city are estimated at \$57,650. The report of the City Marshal shows that seven hundred persons were arrested for various crimes, among which were 331 for drunkenness, and 40 deserters from the U. S. service who were handed over to the proper authorities. The expenses of the police during the year was \$1,060.34. The report says "a very large proportion of the prisoners arrested were strangers, and at no time for several years has the percentage of crime been less among our own citizens." Seven hundred and fifty defendants on 335 summonses have received State Aid from this city, amounting to \$15,365.96. The total expenditures for the year 1864, including State and county tax, repairs of streets, schools, support of poor, police and fire departments &c. — was \$136,869.12. The resources of the city are estimated at \$24,357.85, and the liabilities at 163,684.40, leaving the amount of the present city debt \$139,326.19.

The rebel forces west of the Mississippi are commanded by Kirby Smith. A report has been received, which is yet without official confirmation however, that he had sent a flag of truce to Little Rock, Arkansas, proposing terms of surrender.

The Reduction of WAR EXPENSES. The

reduction of the two principal arms of the old Confederacy, and the near termination of all armed resistance to the federal authority in the rebellious States, has warranted the Government in taking measures for the rapid reduction of the military establishment to conform to the present condition and prospects of affairs in the country. Orders have been issued by the War Department to suspend further recruiting in the several States, and to discharge all the enlisted and drafted men in rendezvous who have not been already mustered into the service. All Provost Marshals are directed immediately to close up the business of their respective offices and to discharge all persons employed by them, except those only who may be needed to complete their final official reports to the Department.

We shall learn another lesson, that it is necessary to call things by their right names. The whole contest in this country for thirty years has been to make the most of a bad element among us rather than to eradicate it. Like a huge cancer, the more we worked upon it, the worse it grew.

Among the most important lessons we shall learn is, that treason is a high crime. The popular standard was low. It did not feel and act as it did when our forefathers were struggling for independence, nor when it caused Aaron Burr to be arrested. Judas, Catiline, Arnold and Burr are branded for always, and such is human nature, that time does not obliterate their names or their characters. They become tenfold more odious on every occasion wherein and wherefore treason shows itself. Hard will be the fate of many a man in this country even though the civil authorities should leave him undisturbed. The very sound or suspicion of treason unmans a man. It makes a coward of him when brought to the test of public scorn.

The last lesson we shall mention, is that we shall learn to love our Flag. It will not hereafter be left to the care of boys and boys' men, but every loyal citizen will learn to respect it, at least, through more than one generation yet to come.

SOLDIERS AID. The following is a list of articles contributed by the ladies of Wellington and Brighton and forwarded to the Christian Commission for the aid of our sick and wounded soldiers:

3 sheets, 10 pillows, 16 pillow cases, 7 pair of socks, 15 roll bandages, 7 indispensables, 3 towels, 100 pocket handkerchiefs, 1 shirt, 25 lbs dried apple, 3 lbs dried blueberries, 1 lb dried strawberries, 1 lb sugar, 4 dozen crackers, and 65 crutches.

The ladies of Whitefield, have furnished the soldiers through the Sanitary Commission with the year ending May 1st 1865, the following articles:

36 shirts, 12 pairs drawers, 23 quilts, 46 pillow cases, 45 roll bandages, 80 pocket handkerchiefs, 25 stockings, 80 towels, 5 large boxes of lint, 750 lbs bandages, 14 slings, 14 pairs slippers, 100 pocket handkerchiefs, 14 pillows, 28 lbs of dried apples, 3 lbs cranberries, 20 dried apples.

The ladies of the Soldiers Aid Society, have also given \$58.00 to the Christian Commission.

A suit brought by Leonard Sturtevant, Esq., of Winthrop, against A. H. Allen of Boston, for giving false information which led to the arrest and imprisonment of Mr. Sturtevant, was tried in Boston last week before the Supreme Court, and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff for \$22,500 damages. It will be remembered by our readers that at the breaking out of the war, Mr. S. was in business in New Orleans, and on his coming north was arrested and lodged in Fort Lafayette, upon charges of disloyalty brought by Allen, who is a relative of Stevartop by marriage. The circumstances of the case were of a peculiarly aggravating character, and the jury accordingly awarded exemplary damages.

SIGNS OF PEACE. Orders were received at this post Saturday last for the discharge of all soldiers now here, whether mustered into the U. S. service or not. In the absence of Col. Little, now at Washington on business this order will remain unexecuted until his return, when it will be carried into effect. He will probably return this week.

The War News of the Week.

The surrenders of Johnston's army in North Carolina, the intelligence of which has come to us during the past week, is another and almost the final step towards the glorious fulfillment of the nation's desire—the defeat of the rebellion, the destruction of slavery, and the restoration of peace. After four long and weary years of struggle and sacrifice, the cause, for which so much blood has been shed and so much treasure expended, has triumphed. The military strength of the rebellion is hopelessly broken, and its discredited and disheartened leaders, followed by the malcontents of the people they have deluded and betrayed to their ruin, have become outlaws and fugitives. The few feeble and scattered fragments of its forces still remaining in the field, without organization or concert of action, destined to resources, and dismayed by disaster, will soon give up the contest in despair, only too glad to purchase, by submission and surrender, the clemency of the Government they have derided and defied. Then will come the more grateful work of restoration and reconstruction. The trial, regenerated and purified by its baptism of fire and sacrifice, will commence a new career of glory and prosperity. A free, united and happy people; a government founded in justice, equality and humanity, recognizing the rights of all, and extending its care over the humblest of its citizens—will vindicate before the world the power and beneficence of republican institutions and our capacity to maintain and perpetuate them.

As was stated last week, the treaty agreed upon between Gen. Sherman and the rebel leaders for the disbandment of Johnston's army, were disapproved by our Government, and Gen. Grant was ordered to assume the command of the forces in North Carolina, disintegrate the armistice and recommence hostilities, unless the rebels were prepared at once to surrender. The result has justified the action of the Government. Gen. Johnston was satisfied that the only admissible terms of surrender were those previously accorded to Gen. Lee. They were at once accepted, and 27,400 men laid down their arms and were paroled and dismissed to their homes, not to serve again in the rebel army during the war, or until they were regularly exchanged. The force surrendered, includes four armies of the military division of the West, but excluding the fifth, commanded by Gen. Dix, Taylor, west of the Chattahoochee river in Georgia. Beauregard and Hardee are among the principal rebel Generals surrendered and paroled.

The latest news of Jeff. Davis is that he passed through Charlotte, N. C., on the 23d ult., on his way southward, escorted by a brigade of rebel cavalry.

Stoneham is probably closely in pursuit,

and it is believed that Wilson, who holds all

Southern Georgia will be able to intercept his

progress towards the Mississippi river.

He was captured at the battle of Resaca, and

was paroled to General Sherman.

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Poetry.

ON THE HEIGHTS.
I stand upon the heights of years,
As stood the prophet of old;
The prophet, white as if unrolled
Like painted scroll the truants appear.

Far down the rugged slopes by earth and shade,
In silent gloom the forest glade,
Which barks now louder than the God.

And nearer, yet still far, twist it and
Lie back, still, that fair domain
Whence to my listening heart again
Is born Youth's long-cherished name.

The soft, low voices of the Morning Land
With silvery streams the fervent noon,

Memory's music, all must sing,

Fade in the shadows of the land.

Yet sleepless Moes in that awful dream

Whence shown Westward as living fire,

While all his rapt soul did aspire.

To the above the darkness of limb;

So through gaudy dreams to earthly

Heavenly life's sweet visions fade,

While swift the ripples gather there,

Of ages past, of years to come,

Never, nor in life's sunny vale;

Whose strength my weakness never fails

To lift me up, to help me on.

Alas! 'Tis well; for this heart of mine

Shall like the prophet's bairn, lie

Bared to the light; that only Thy

Deity can shield me from the love divine.

—Harper's Monthly for May.

Our Story-Teller.

NINA GREY.

"Her voice was blithe, her heart was light;

She gladd'd like sunshine on our sight."

"Have you heard what a match Nina Grey is

going to make?" asked my neighbor, Mrs. Willis, of me,

"And such a nice girl, too! it is really quite

surprising. She is to be married to the General,

Bolleson, who is desperately in love with her last

winter; but I heard that she made no more ac-

count of him than if he had been the lieutenant

of some marching regiment. It is quite unac-

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